

✓

B1

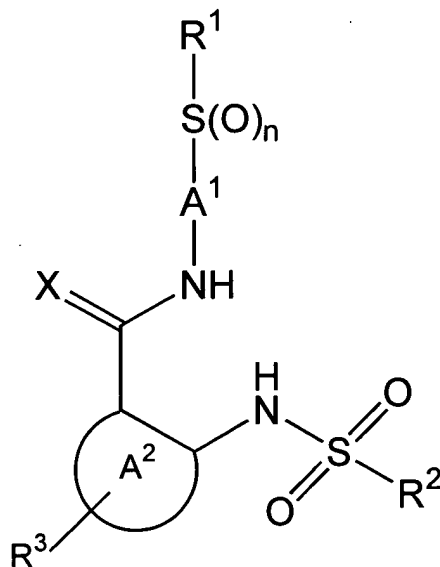
The present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to U.S. Application No. 09/349,933 filed on July 8, 1999, and issued on January 1, 2002 as U.S. Patent No. 6,335,334, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to German patent applications No. 19830430.7 filed on July 8, 1998, and No. 19903126.6 filed on January 27, 1999; all three prior applications are incorporated herein in their entirety by specific reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓ Without prejudice or disclaimer, please amend claims 1 and 14-17, as follows:

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1. (Once Amended) A compound of formula I, a stereoisomeric form thereof, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein

A¹ is a divalent residue chosen from phenylene, naphthylene, and heteroarylene, and